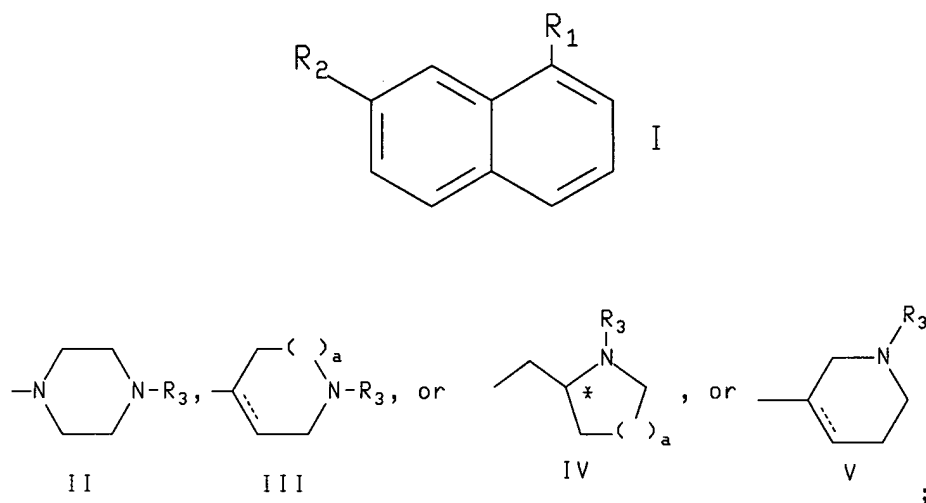


**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Amend the paragraph at Page 1, line 31 to Page 2, line 12 as follows:

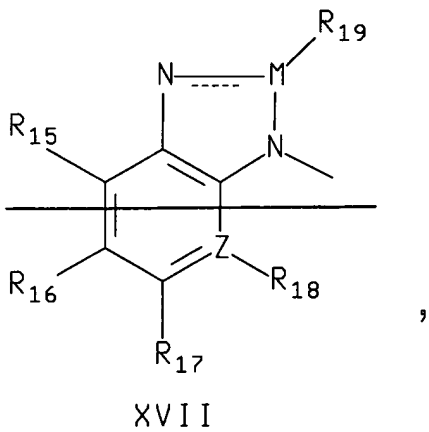
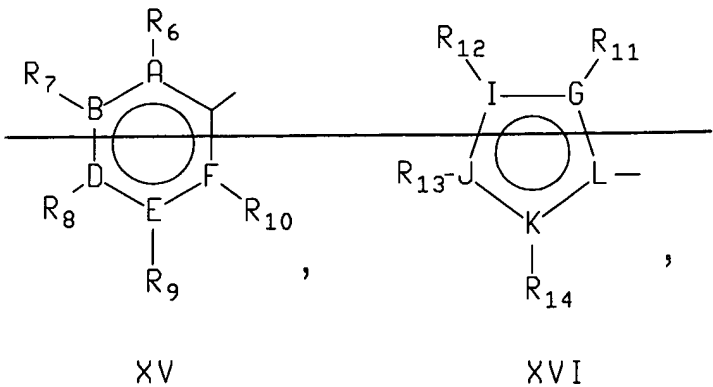
The present invention relates to compounds of the formula

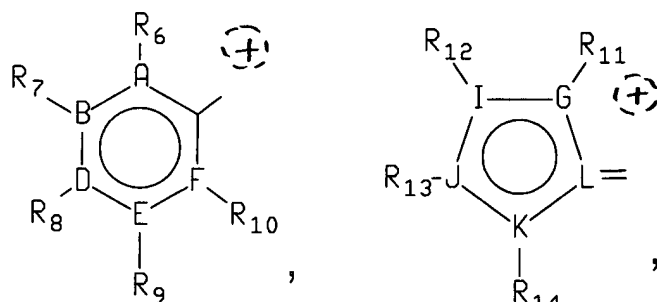


$R_2$  is  $-R_4$ ,  $-O-R_4$ ,  $-O-S(O)_2-R_4$ ,  $-NR_4R_5$ ,  $R_4-(CH_2)_b-NH(C=X)-(CH_2)_c-$ ,  
 $R_4-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)NH-(CH_2)_c-(C=O)NH-$ ,  $R_4-(C=O)NH-(C=O)NH-$ ,  
 $-(CH_2)_b-NH(C=X)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$ ,  $R_4-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-$ ,  $-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$ ,  
 $-NH(C=X)NH-R_4$ ,  $R_4-O(C=O)O-$ ,  $-O(C=O)NH-R_4$ ,  $R_4-O(C=O)NH-$ ,  
 $-(CH_2)_b-(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$ ,  $-NH-S(O)_2-R_4$ ,  $-C(OH)R_4R_5$ ,  $-CH(OH)-R_4$ ,  $-(C=O)-NR_4R_5$ ,  $-CN$ ,  
 $-NO_2$ , substituted  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkenyl, or substituted  
or unsubstituted  $C_1$  to  $C_6$  alkynyl, said substituted moieties substituted with a moiety of the  
formulae  $-R_4$ ,  $-R_4R_5$ ,  $-O-R_4$ , or  $-S(O)_d-R_4$ ;

Amend the paragraph at Page 2, lines 14 to 35 as follows:

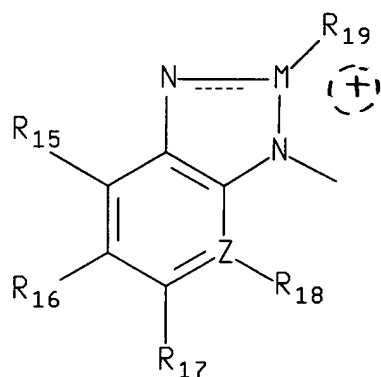
$R_4$  and  $R_5$  are each independently





XV

XVI



XVII

hydrogen, -CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, with the proviso that when R<sub>2</sub> is -R<sub>4</sub> or -OR<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> is not hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

Amend the paragraph at Page 3, lines 5 to 8 as follows:

R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>14</sub>, R<sub>15</sub>, R<sub>16</sub>, R<sub>17</sub>, and R<sub>18</sub> are each independently H, halogen, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -(C=O)R<sub>20</sub>, -CN, -OR<sub>20</sub>, -NR<sub>20</sub>R<sub>21</sub>, -NR<sub>20</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>22</sub>, -N<sub>20</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>22</sub>, -N=C-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, -S(O)<sub>6</sub>R<sub>20</sub>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sub>20</sub>R<sub>21</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, aryl, C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkylaryl, -(C=O)OR<sub>20</sub>, -(C=O)NR<sub>20</sub>R<sub>21</sub>, C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, and C<sub>4</sub> C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl;

Amend the paragraph at Page 3, lines 9 to 13 as follows:

R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub>, R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub>, R<sub>12</sub> and R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>13</sub> and R<sub>14</sub>, R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub>, R<sub>16</sub> and R<sub>17</sub>, and R<sub>17</sub> and R<sub>18</sub> may be taken together with the ring atoms to which they are attached to form a five-to-seven-membered alkyl ring, a six-membered aryl ring, a five to seven membered heteroalkyl ring having one heteroatom of N, O, or S, or a five-to six-membered heteroaryl ring having ~~have~~ 1 or 2 heteroatoms of N, O, or S;